

thyroid pills, nitroglycerine for a heart condition, and Lorazepam for her nerves. She cannot afford to purchase all of these medications each month. Subsequently, she was forced to forgo her heart medication, and has had trouble affording groceries. Georgia tries to put money aside each month to buy the medication she needs, but each time she foregoes any medication or doesn't eat properly, her condition worsens. She constantly worries about her monthly prescription requirements and as a result, her asthma and anxiety problems have worsened.

And it is not only the seniors who suffer. Thousands of independent pharmacies go out of business each year because they simply cannot afford to purchase certain drugs from pharmaceutical companies. Pharmacists in my district care about their customers and have told me how painful it is to explain to a senior citizen why the medication that cost \$15 last month now costs \$65. But, if the pharmacy doesn't stock the medications, they will lose considerable business.

Jack Collins of Lynn Fells Pharmacy in Saugus, MA, stated "They know that we will expose them and their pricing policies . . . it's independent pharmacist who will take the time to explain to a senior citizen just how they are being ripped off. We are their enemies and they are determined to eliminate us." He goes on to say that, "If you and your colleagues in Congress don't stand up to this cartel and level the playing field on prescription pricing, the people in this country paying cash for their medicines will continue to neglect filling their prescriptions, necessitating more hospital visits and further driving the cost of health care through the roof."

It becomes too late this session to act on legislation such as Mr. Allen's Prescription Drug Fairness for Seniors Act, I would urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to make this a priority for the 106th Congress. This is not a partisan issue. Every district has seniors like Georgia LaPine and independent pharmacists like Jack Collins. We constantly talk about protecting seniors and helping small businesses. We simply cannot continue to provide pharmaceutical companies with research and development funding and close our eyes to discriminatory pricing schemes that target seniors, among others, or their exorbitant price increases. This legislation that we have introduced would benefit seniors and pharmacies by allowing them to purchase low-cost prescription drugs by taking advantage of the purchasing power of existing Federal Supply Schedule prices.

This is a plan that is budget neutral, and which, given the drug manufacturers' uncommon profit margins, need not adversely affect prices in general. This is an effective and much-needed solution. I urge both the Republican and Democratic Leadership to make this issue a priority for the next session.

#### AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR TO THEODORE ROOSEVELT

SPEECH OF

**HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 8, 1998*

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, if there had been a recorded vote rather than a voice vote on H.R.

2263, a bill to confer the Congressional Medal of Honor on Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, I would have voted "no". To honor the former President some 100 years after his alleged act of bravery during the battle of San Juan Heights, Cuba, would be just another example of how American history is constantly and erroneously revised.

Common sense should dictate that if Mr. Roosevelt accomplished the great and valiant deeds of heroism that he (Mr. Roosevelt) claims, then he would have been awarded the medal many years ago. If Roosevelt's popularity immediately following the Spanish American War played a major role in his being elected governor of New York and helped his many friends in the highest places of government, why was he denied the honor?

Roosevelt enlisted the aid of his political powerful friend, Senator Henry Cabot Lodge to pursue the matter and still was rejected. The primary basis for the rejection was there were no eyewitnesses to Mr. Roosevelt's courageous actions. His superior officers, Generals Leonard Wood, Joseph Wheeler and William Shafter all submitted glowing endorsements of Roosevelt's "distinguished gallantry", but they were viewed with little merit as none of them actually witnessed his alleged heroic charge. The only credible eyewitness was Roosevelt's personal publicist, Richard Harding Davis, who accompanied Roosevelt to Cuba.

Hundreds of highly decorated units of black soldiers were among the first to be sent to Cuba in 1898 to fight in the Spanish American War, including the 9th and 10th Cavalry and the 24th and 25th Army Regiments. These heroic soldiers waged a furious battle, capturing El Caney and charging the enemy from the summit at San Juan Hill. Their acts of bravery enabled Colonel Roosevelt and his "Rough Riders" to win San Juan Hill the following day. According to an article which appeared in the *Washington Times* on February 8, 1991, "Neither Col. Theodore Roosevelt, whose name is most commonly associated with the battle of San Juan Hill, nor any other Roughrider reached the summit before the black calvary".

The Americans outnumbered the Spanish militia 10 to 1, but the undermanned Spaniard troops fought fiercely from their concrete blockhouses. American casualties were heavy. More than 200 were killed or injured. Five Negro soldiers won Congressional Medals of Honor for bravery in the battle at El Caney and San Juan Hill. They were Dennis Bell, Edward Baker, Fitz Lee, William Thomkins and George Wanton. Secretary of the Navy, Frank Knox, lauded them as being the "bravest men" he had ever seen.

Mr. Speaker, Teddy Roosevelt was no hero at San Juan and his insistence that he was is not sufficient to justify the House of Representatives authorizing the President to award him the Congressional Medal of Honor. This high distinction is reserved for those who have performed extraordinary fetes of bravery.

#### DESIGNATING OCTOBER 16TH AS "SAN DIEGO MAGAZINE DAY"

**HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, October 10, 1998*

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to San

Diego Magazine on their 50th anniversary by joining the residents of San Diego in proclaiming October 16th "San Diego Magazine Day."

The San Diego publication has earned a reputation for remaining on the forefront of issues which are important to San Diegans. It is also known for articles which are always intelligently written, witty, and never cynical or disparaging. Throughout the years, the magazine has remained a source of unbiased and comprehensive coverage of local news and perspectives for its readers.

Since its debut in 1948, San Diego Magazine has followed matters which are still relevant today such as: the improvement of the downtown library; the San Diego airport which was designed to grow to meet the needs of the city; the need for an efficient public transportation system, and the need for better city planning in Mission Valley. In the last two decades, the magazine has also published stories addressing San Diego's exponential growth as a major business market, technology center, and tourist destination.

Fifty years of striving for excellence has paid off for San Diego Magazine. Its recent sweep of 17 Press Club Awards for high accomplishment in journalism, special publications, and art direction has made it a standard upon which many other regional magazines are modeling their publications.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents, I extend my highest congratulations to San Diego Magazine on their Golden Anniversary. We look forward to many more years of forward-thinking and entertaining articles which beautifully reflect the character of the San Diego area.

#### LONG-TERM CARE PATIENT PROTECTION ACT OF 1998

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Saturday, October 10, 1998*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, When a family makes the difficult decision to place an aging relative in a nursing home, they trust the institution to care properly for their loved one. However, over the last few years, numerous concerns have been raised about the quality of care and standards within the nursing home industry. At a time when this industry is experiencing explosive growth, I believe it is imperative that Congress institute safeguards to protect the most vulnerable members of our society.

As the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Human Resources, which has held numerous hearings examining our nation's nursing homes, I believe that introducing the Long-Term Care Patient Protection Act of 1998 today will take a pivotal step in the right direction. This bill represents part of the Administration's efforts to improve quality of care within the nursing home industry, and serves as a complement to H.R. 4686, a bill introduced by my esteemed colleague, Mr. Joseph P. Kennedy, II, of Massachusetts.

Specifically, the Long-Term Care Patient Protection Act of 1998, would allow qualified and trained paid staff other than nurses aides and licensed health professionals to provide feeding and hydration assistance to residents in nursing facilities participating in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. It would also